

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE

STATE PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice of Action on Petition for Initial Plan Endorsement and Amendments to the State Plan Policy Map

Petitioner: Middle Township, Cape May County, New Jersey

Take notice that effective September 28, 2011, the New Jersey State Planning Commission granted Plan Endorsement to the Township of Middle and authorized designation of the following centers on the State Plan Policy Map: Regional Centers: Cape May Court House and Rio Grande-Whitesboro Burleigh; Villages: Del Haven, Green Creek, Swainton, and Hildreth; and Hamlet: Goshen.

The endorsement and center designations became effective on September 28, 2011. The period of Plan Endorsement and center designations shall be for 10 years from the date of endorsement.

The Township of Middle is located on the Cape May County mainland, surrounded by the Delaware Bay to the West, Lower Township to the South, Avalon, Stone Harbor, and the Wildwoods to the East, and Dennis Township to the North. The Township is 83 square miles in size. The Township is entirely within the Coastal Areas Facilities Review Act (CAFRA) area. The Garden State Parkway, State Highways 83, 47, and 147 as well as County Routes 657 and 619 and a number of local roads serve the Township.

On November 23, 2004, Middle Township attended a pre-petition meeting with staff of the Office for Planning Advocacy (OPA) to discuss Plan Endorsement. On December 29, 2005, the Township formally submitted a petition for Initial Plan Endorsement. On January 27, 2005,

OPA deemed the petition complete. On April 26, 2006, OPA issued a consistency review and identified items where the plan was inconsistent with the State Development and Redevelopment Plan (State Plan). OPA offered the Township the opportunity to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Action Plan to resolve State Plan consistency issues. On December 4, 2006, the Township adopted Resolution No. 574-06 to enter into the MOU with OPA. Since then, the Township has worked actively with the State to complete Action Plan items.

On August 17, 2011, the Executive Director prepared a Recommendation Report and draft Planning and Implementation Agreement (PIA) recommending endorsement of the Plan, and designation of the seven centers in the State Plan Policy Map. On August 24, 2011, the Plan Implementation Committee (PIC) held a meeting to consider the recommendations summarized in the Recommendation Report, a draft Planning and Implementation Agreement (PIA) describing actions to be taken by petitioner during the endorsement period, as well as public comments provided before and during the PIC meeting. The PIC supported the recommendations set forth in the Report and proposed minor revisions to the draft PIA.

On September 28, 2011, the State Planning Commission (Commission) considered the Recommendation Report, proposed center designations and revised draft PIA and found that the Township's plan is consistent with the goals, policies and strategies of the State Plan. The Commission passed Resolution 2011-05 to approve the petition for plan endorsement. The Commission also authorized designating the seven centers on the State Plan Policy Map, since the map changes met the criteria and policy objectives in the State Plan. All documents relating to Middle Township's petition for plan endorsement, including amendments to the State Plan Policy Map, can be found at: <http://www.state.nj.us/state/planning/pe.html>.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:85-1.7(i), a copy of this notice has been mailed to those entities specified therein.